

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT[281]

Adopted and Filed

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 256.7(5), the State Board of Education hereby amends Chapter 32, "High School Equivalency Diploma," Iowa Administrative Code.

The amendment in Item 1 reflects a new test series from the General Educational Development Testing Service that changed the scoring of the tests. The amendments in Items 2 to 4 reflect the provisions in Iowa Code section 259A.2 and the enactment of 2011 Iowa Acts, Senate File 470, section 7, both of which authorize the State Board of Education to establish by rule the amount of fees. The fees have not been raised in over 20 years.

An agencywide waiver provision is provided in 281—Chapter 4.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the August 24, 2011, Iowa Administrative Bulletin as **ARC 9683B**. Public comments were allowed until 4:30 p.m. on September 13, 2011. A public hearing was held on that date at which no person appeared. No written or oral comments were received. These amendments are identical to those published under Notice.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 259A as amended by 2011 Iowa Acts, Senate File 470, section 7.

These amendments shall become effective January 18, 2012.

The following amendments are adopted.

ITEM 1. Amend rule 281—32.3(259A) as follows:

281—32.3(259A) Minimum score. Applicants shall make a minimum standard score of ~~35~~ 410 on each test and an average standard score of ~~45~~ 450 on all five of the General Educational Development Tests.

ITEM 2. Amend rule 281—32.5(259A), introductory paragraph, as follows:

281—32.5(259A) Retest. Any applicant not achieving the minimum standard test scores as defined in rule 281—32.3(259A), upon payment of a ~~\$5~~ \$10 fee, shall be permitted to make application for retest and scoring of the retest, provided that one of the following conditions is met:

ITEM 3. Amend rule 281—32.6(259A) as follows:

281—32.6(259A) Application fee. The applicant or supporting agency shall pay an application fee of ~~\$20~~ \$25. This fee shall be paid to the official Iowa General Educational Development Testing Agency and shall allow for initial testing and scoring of the initial testing of the eligible candidate with the five General Educational Development Tests.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 259A.2 and 259A.5.

ITEM 4. Adopt the following new rule 281—32.7(259A):

281—32.7(259A) Diploma, transcript, verification fees. Upon payment of \$10 to the Iowa department of education, the department shall prepare and issue a high school equivalency diploma to an applicant who has achieved the minimum and average scores established in rule 281—32.3(259A). Upon payment of \$10 to the Iowa department of education, the department shall prepare and issue a copy of an applicant's transcript to the applicant or person authorized by the applicant to request the transcript. Upon payment of \$10 to the Iowa department of education, the department shall prepare and issue a

verification that an applicant has earned a high school equivalency diploma to the applicant or person authorized by the applicant to request the verification.

[Filed 11/16/11, effective 1/18/12]

[Published 12/14/11]

EDITOR'S NOTE: For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 12/14/11.